

PADUCAH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT CITIZENS ADVISORY BOARD

2000 McCracken Boulevard • Paducah, Kentucky 42001 • (270) 744-9010 • padssab@apex.net www.oakridge.doe.gov/pgdpssab

Chair

July 10, 2002

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DOE Federal Coordinator Patricia J. Halsey

Mr. William E. Murphie U.S. Department of Energy Headquarters, Forrestall Building 1000 Independence Avenue Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Mr. Murphie:

On behalf of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant (PGDP) Citizens Advisory Board (CAB), we wish to share some of our concerns regarding the lack of public involvement in both the Top-To-Bottom review and the Accelerated Cleanup Plan at the PGDP site.

The CAB has not been afforded the opportunity to provide any input in either the Top-To-Bottom review or the Accelerated Cleanup Plan. In contrast, several members from the CAB recently attended the Site-Specific Advisory Board (SSAB) Chairs Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, April 11-13, 2002. During the course of the conference, we became aware that while a few sites may have had some involvement in the Top-To-Bottom review process, there was no true "public involvement." Regarding the development of Accelerated Cleanup Plans for the sites, many SSABs were involved in the development of the plan. At Paducah, we have not been briefed by any Department of Energy (DOE) representative and have only been given a very brief, sketchy paper presentation of DOE's proposal. Consequently, we find it difficult to understand why the opportunity to provide input from the public sector was not available for Paducah stakeholders.

We are confident that this DOE-appointed board, with its wide range of technical expertise and valuable familiarity with the local issues at PGDP, could have provided useful and insightful information from the public perspective.

We were recently provided copies of the Accelerated Cleanup Plan and informed that until ongoing negotiations among DOE and state and federal regulators are complete, DOE staff has been instructed not to discuss the proposal. We are very concerned that these continued delays between DOE and the regulators could negatively impact the funding of the Accelerated Cleanup Plan at PGDP and seriously impair further progress in actual cleanup at the site. As you may expect, this scenario is simply unacceptable to the public and surrounding community near the PGDP.

The CAB is also frustrated that some cleanup projects at PGDP appear to have lost momentum and are struggling due to the lack of agreement with federal and state regulators. We urge DOE to pursue closure on this issue as quickly as possible for the benefit of all concerned.

In the future, we respectfully request that DOE involve the public sector early in the decision-making process in order to provide a balanced perspective that reflects the purpose of our charter which states, "the EM SSAB will provide input and recommendations on strategic decisions that impact future use, risk management, economic development, transportation, long-term stewardship, and budget prioritization activities."

Mr. William E. Murphie Page 2 July 10, 2002

We expectantly await your reply.

Sincerely,

Wark Donham

Mark Donham, Chairman Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant Citizens Advisory Board

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- c: J. Anderson, Paducah Area Community Reuse Organization
 - J. E. Bickford, Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet
 - G. Boyd, DOE-HQ

Senator Jim Bunning

N. Courtney, CAB

M. Crosland, DOE-HQ

- R. H. Daniell, Kentucky Division of Waste Management
- C. Froede, Jr., U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 4
- D. Greene, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- P. Halsey, DOE-ORO
- M. Holland, DOE-ORO
- J. Johnston, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- V. Jones, CAB
- M. Kemp, CAB
- R. Ladd, CAB
- R. Lamb, CAB
- R. Lambert, CAB
- J. Lane, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
- H. C. List, Kentucky Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet
- R. W. Logan, Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection
- L. Long, CAB

Senator Mitch McConnell

McCracken County Judge Executive Danny Orazine

J. Palmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Governor Paul Patton

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- D. L. Raper, CAB
- J. C. Rhodes, CAB
- J. H. Roberson, DOE-HQ

Dr. J. Russell, CAB

- R. Scott, CAB
- W. D. Seaborg, DOE-PAD

Dr. J. Smart, CAB

- B. Tanner, CAB
- T. Taylor, Kentucky Division for Waste Management
- J. Tillson, CAB

Rev. G. Waldrop, CAB

M. V. Welch, Kentucky Division of Waste Management

Congressman Ed Whitfield

S. C. Young, Bechtel Jacobs Company LLC

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